

**LILY PLANT NAMED 'CORSO'**

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**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of lily plant, botanically known as *Lilium L.*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Corso'.

'Corso' is a product of a planned breeding program which had the objective of creating new lily cultivars having large erected flowers and vigorous growth.

10 'Corso' was originated from a hybridization made by the inventor in a controlled breeding program in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands in 1993. The male and female parents were unnamed seedlings of *Lilium L.* oriental hybrids. Both parents are proprietary cultivars used in the breeding program.

15 'Corso' was discovered and selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross by the inventor, Cees A. van der Voort, in May 1993 in a controlled environment in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands.

The first act of asexual reproduction of 'Corso' was accomplished when scales were taken from the initial selection in October 1995 in a controlled environment in Rijnsburg, the Netherlands by, or under the supervision of, Cees A. van der Voort. Horticultural 20 examination of selected units initiated in May, 1995 has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for 'Corso' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Corso' which in combination distinguish this lily as a new and distinct cultivar:

5        1. large, erect flowers;  
          2. slim tepals with curled edges;  
          3. intense pink color with contrasting yellow-green mid-vein; and  
          4. vigorous growth habit.

10        'Corso' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and daylength without any change in genotype. The following observations, measurements, and comparisons describe plants grown in the experimental research station CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, the Netherlands under conditions which  
15        approximate those generally used in commercial practice.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, no other cultivars are similar in comparison to 'Corso'.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

20        The accompanying color photographic illustration shows typical plant and flower characteristics of 'Corso', with colors being as true as possible with illustrations of this type.

## DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart. The color values were determined between 12 pm and 2 pm in May 1999 at the experimental research station CPRO-DLO, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

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ORIGIN: Selected crossing from a controlled hybridization program

### PARENTAGE:

Female parent: Unnamed seedling

Male parent: Unnamed seedling

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### CLASSIFICATION:

Botanical: A hybrid of the genus *Lilium L.*

Commercial: Oriental Lily cv. 'Corso'

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### PLANT:

Form: A single stem carrying numerous, alternately arranged pedicels

Height: Medium for the mature plant, approximately 100 cm, depending on cultivation conditions

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Growth Habit: Vigorous

Stem: Circular in transverse section; anthocyanin pigmentation present in spots and stripes; internodal length uniform

### FOLIAGE:

Quantity: Approximately 35 - 45, depending on cultivation conditions

Size of leaf: Medium, approximately 8½ cm long and 2½ cm wide, depending on cultivation conditions

Shape of leaf: Generally ovate

5 Texture: Hardly any pubescence

Color: Medium green

Bulb:

Size: 16 to 18 cm in circumference

Color: White/pink

10 BUD:

Form: Tapering like a lancet

Size: Large, 8 cm in length, depending on cultivation conditions

Opening: Unfolds normally in standard cultivation conditions

15 Color: Light red-purple, RHS 66D, with gray shading just before opening

Tepals: Folded, three visible

FLOWER:

20 Blooming habit: Raceme

Size: Large, approximately 19 cm, depending on cultivation conditions

Borne: Erect along a longitudinal axis

Shape: Generally, hexagonal star in form and bowl-shaped in cross-section

Tepalage:

Number of Tepals: 6

Arrangement: Three inner and three outer

Color:

Upper Surface: Red-purple, RHS 66C, yellowish-green mid-vein

Lower Surface: Red-purple, RHS 66C

5 Spotting or Marking: Dark-purple spots and markings are present

Pedicel:

Length: Medium to long, approximately 6 cm, depending on cultivation conditions

Form: Tapering like a lancet

10 Texture: Papillose

Disease Resistance: Medium

Fragrance: Present

Lasting Quality: Excellent

15 REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

Stamens and anthers:

Arrangements: Anthers form a generally circular pattern at their upper ends

Number: 6

20 Length: Short to medium, depending on cultivation conditions

Filaments Color: Yellowish-green

Pollen color: Orange

Anther color: White/yellow

Pistils: Green

Stigma: Pink

Ovaries: Triangular in shape